6. Ayurvedic Dispensary, Palanpur Distt. Mehansana.

Elimination of child Labour

80. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would furnish an update on its efforts to eliminate child labour in phased manner in deference to the directives of ILO and other international rights organisations;

(b) what has been the progress made on phasing out child labour in carpet, glass, fireworks/matches, hosiery/ garments sectors giving status on each sector; and

(c) whether the Labour Ministry has any plans to co-sponsor educational programmes/projects aimed at weaning away child labour and to equip them with literacy and vocational skills?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) India, being a founder member of ILO, would be required, from time to time, to provide information on progress of implementation of various Conventions ratified by India including on the Conventions relating to child labour.

(b) Under the National Child Labour Projects (NCLP) Scheme of the Ministry of Labour projects *inter-alia* cover the followings sectors:

Sector	Children covered
Glass	1500
Brassware	500
Locks	500
Carpet	2950
Slate	1900
Tile	100
Match & Fire Works	2350
Gem polishing	1000
Agriculture/ Chemicals	2000
Beedi	3000

The National Authority for Elimination of Child Labour has also identified 100 districts which have the highest incidence of Child Labour in the country.

It has been decided that projects to eliminate child labour in hazardous occupations will be started as per the National Child Labour Project Scheme in these districts. Under this scheme children withdrawn from work will be provided with primary level education, vocational training, nutrition and stipends through the special schools. A workshop of these 100 District Collectors is scheduled to take place in New Delhi on September 13,14, 1995. The concerned Collectors have been requested to prepare project proposals in their respective districts based on the National Child Labour Project Scheme I. An allocation of Rs. 34.4 crores has been made for the current year to undertake projects for children withdrawn from work.

(c) A major activity undertaken under the NCLP is establishment of special schools to provide basic needs like non-formal education, vocational training, supplementary nutrition etc., to the children withdrawn from employment. Voluntary agencies are also being financially assisted to the extent of 75% for taking up welfare projects for working children under Grants-in-aid Scheme.

Foreign exchange loss due to poor packaging of products.

81. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of foreign exchange loss suffered by the country due to rejections, spoilage and breakages arising from poor packaging of engineering and marine products, garments, handicrafts, fresh fruit and vegetables, during each of the last three years and so far in 1995 and the quantity